

COUNTRY ~~Approved For Release 2003/08/12 : CIA-RDP82-00457R015300330003-7~~

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Field Exercises in the Area Southwest of Fuerstenwalde

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 8 to 10 October 1952DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 10 November 1952

REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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A field exercise of mixed troops in an estimated strength of about 5,000 soldiers took place in the area of Spreehagen-Kirchhofen-Fuerstenwalde-Rieplos and the brickyard in Rauen during the period from 8 to 10 October. Eighteen rocket launchers, about 50 x 120-mm mortars, 15 JS tanks [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] 20 four-wheel armored scout cars, about 120 x 40-mm, 57-mm, 76.2-mm and 85-mm AT guns and engineer units in the strength of about 400 troops were seen. The engineers built three pontoon bridges. One bridge was built across the Oder-Spree Canal near Hartmannsdorf, another bridge was near the dam of the Oder-Spree Canal and the third bridge was about 150 meters east of the dam across the Spree River. They were about 5 meters wide and were used by tanks and motorized units. The roads from Spreehagen to Rieplos and from Braunsdorf to Fuerstenwalde and from Rieplos to Markgraf Pieste were blocked on two days. [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] the field exercises in the area west-southwest of Fuerstenwalde was held by units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div and, possibly, headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. The latter assumption is supported by the 18 rocket launchers whose number exceeds the equipment of a rocket launcher battalion of a mechanized division by 10 guns. It is possible that the afore mentioned units marched by road from Lieberose to Fuerstenwalde and used the occasion for holding an exercise prior to returning to their post. Other sources reported that elements of the 7th Gds Mecz Div had arrived by road in Fuerstenwalde from the Lieberose troop training grounds on 9 and 10 October. [REDACTED]. The field exercises mentioned in the present report probably also involved the 122d (?) Gds Engr Bn of the division.

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